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#1 FREE DAILY NEWSPAPER IN CENTER CITY

RYE: YOU NO LIKE WHISKEY? {page 04}

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PHILADELPHIA
Thursday, October 25, 2012

RENDERING; INSERT: RIKARD LARMA/METRO

‘Get on board’ with this $700M resort

That’s what developer Bart Blatstein told gazers gathered last night at unveiling of megacomplex ‘The Provence’ Casino resort north of City Hall would be largest private build in city history {page 02}

Blatstein with his daughter Jenna Leigh last night

the word

The Simpsons’ gay father?

No, not Homer It may be why Ashlee and Jessica’s dad is getting divorced {page 10}

dating

When casual sex gets dull

Why hooking up without an emotional connection isn’t as fulfilling as it seems {page 15}

Still no answers to missing baby

{page 02}

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No answers in missing baby's kidnapping

▶ Saanvi

Frustration is mounting with the lack of details surrounding the search for missing 10-month-old Saanvi Venna from King of Prussia Monday or her grandmother's murder the same day.

"We're just waiting," said Madhukar Sanikommu, cousin of the child's father. "We're just praying for the baby. That's all we can do at this point."

An autopsy of the young girl's grandmother was completed Tuesday, but its results have not yet been released. Her cause of death and any possible motive behind it are still unclear. Investigators with the FBI yesterday said the incident was still under the jurisdiction of local police. But an officer with Upper Merion police communications center deferred questions to the FBI. The Montgomery County District Attorney's Office did not return calls for comment.

One law enforcement source said investigators do not yet know whether the child has been abducted or subject to a more insidious fate and are acting with an abundance of caution in choosing to remain tight-lipped about the crimes in an attempt to ensure the child is found safe. METRO/AW

'Suspicious' death at Green Street home

CALLOWHILL. Police are investigating a possible homicide on the 1100 block of Green Street.

Authorities said a home health worker discovered the body of a 43-year-old man, who was reportedly a paraplegic, shortly after 9 a.m. yesterday morning.

Though investigators said it appears the victim had been beaten and are terming his death "suspicious," an autopsy will be needed to determine exactly what happened. METRO

Woman alleges imprisonment in North Philly

CRESCENTVILLE. Police are investigating a woman's allegations that she was held captive for more than a week at a home on the 500 block of East Godfrey Avenue.

The 22-year-old woman walked into a dentist's office on the block around 10:30 a.m. yesterday, stated that she had been abducted and asked for help. She initially told investigators that she had been kidnapped, but later said that she went to the home last Tuesday night.

The victim alleged that when she tried to leave, a man, identified by police as 21-year-old Leon Stewart, would not let her. Investigators said she was not physically injured and that the nature of her relationship with Stewart is currently unclear. Stewart was arrested yesterday. METRO

Blatstein's boisterous plan brings French feel to Philly

Developer's proposed $700 million casino complex would follow up his touch of Italy in Northern Liberties Confidence is one of his strong suits

Like a confident card player not concerned about tipping his hand, developer Bart Blatstein unveiled plans yesterday for a $700 million casino and resort complex on North Broad Street at the site of the former Inquirer building during a lavish party in Northern Liberties.

The proposed development, called The Provence (pronounced Prah-VONCE), would be operated by Hard Rock International. Blatstein, president and CEO of Tower Developments, is one about a handful of developers expected to submit an application to the state Gaming Control Board for the city's second gaming license before the Nov. 15 deadline.

Blatstein was not concerned about other potential developers seeing his plans.

"I thought it was important to let the world see what we're all about and get on board," he said.

All the submissions will be made available to the public once the application period closes, the gaming board said. It could take nine to 12 months before a selection is made. Officials yesterday would not disclose how many applications have been received, but said Blatstein's unveiling would not affect the selection process.

An attorney with experience in the development community speculated that the release is likely an early marketing ploy.

"I think one of the reasons you're not seeing others do it is they don't want to open the door to a lot of public comment before the deadline," said the attorney, speaking anonymously because he has worked with Blatstein on other projects.

▶ The former Inquirer building, right, would be a 125-room hotel.

RIKARD LARMA/METRO

▶ Blatstein last night

SOLOMON D. LEACH
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It's his world

Dallas, Texas, has Jerry's World. Philadelphia could have Bart's World.

The proposed casino and resort complex unveiled by Blatstein would feature a 125-room hotel, rooftop shopping and dining, a theater, private swim clubs, several entertainment venues and two indoor parking garages. The project would stretch along Callowhill from Broad to 16th streets.

Blatstein boasted that the project would be the largest private investment in the city's history and would not use public dollars.

"Financing's no issue, we've got the money," he told reporters. "I could build four of these projects with the money that's being offered me."

Lots of interest

At least five more developers have been rumored to have interest in the second casino license.

Robert Zuritsky, president and CEO of Parkway Corp., which operates several parking lots in Center City, including one across from the former Inquirer site, is involved in one of those projects, but said that proposal is not ready for the public.

Other potential locations for a casino are a 27-acre site in Kensington near the Delaware River, the South Philadelphia sports complex, and North Broad Street across from the former Inquirer building.

In the news

"Bullying and hate is epidemic in the world today. You are not insular in this world. Your responsibility is to care for one another."

JUDY SHEPARD, THE MOTHER OF MURDER VICTIM MATTHEW SHEPARD, ADDRESSING LAW ENFORCEMENT AND COMMUNITY LEADERS IN PHILADELPHIA YESTERDAY AT A CONFERENCE ON HATE CRIMES

In the news

Church bandit

Police allegedly caught a copper thief in the act in at St. Mark's Church, 16th and Locust streets, around 3:30 a.m. yesterday. Officers saw a man who they said was pretending to be asleep on a bench nearby. A search allegedly turned up three copper downspouts from the church. The man was arrested, but charges had not yet been filed by last night.

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A city full of rye (whiskey, that is)

- Resurgence of certain type of whiskey in Philly, a place typically renowned for its craft beer love
- Philadelphia Whiskey Festival kicks off tonight

Pennsylvania is experiencing a new Whiskey Rebellion, one that can trace its roots directly to Philadelphia.

Unlike the original uprising, led by residents irate over a new tax on their whiskey, this time it's a celebration. The city is being bombarded with the legalized speakeasy — places like Village Whiskey, Franklin Mortgage, Hop Sing Laundromat — and brown-colored liquids, not clear ones, are swirling around high balls.

"Every couple months another whiskey bar pops up," said Paul Rodriguez, general manager at Village Whiskey.

"There's definitely a renewed interest in brown spirits. Maybe people are finally getting tired of flavored vodkas."
MIHALICH

"It's not just Center City, it's the little bars in the neighborhoods. They're all carrying specialized whiskeys, not the large, generic ones."

One brown spirit, in particular, is making a huge comeback: rye whiskey. The hooch was the drink of choice in Pennsylvania, and really the United States, up until Prohibition, then — poof! — it vanished quicker than last call. Now, it's captivating a new generation (young professionals in their mid-20s to early 30s) with its unique, spicy flavor. Even craft beer drinkers are embracing it.

Mihalich, who opened Dad's Hat with his business partner John Cooper in 2011, is churning out 3,000 bottles a month and distributing it as far as California. He intends to expand his operation soon.

MIKE GREGER
mgreger@metro.us

COURTESY OF TODD TRICE

▶ These bottles of Dad's Hat rye whiskey cost $39 and $30, left to right.

Rye defined

To be classified as rye whiskey, it must be distilled from at least 51-percent rye and aged six to nine months.

- Its flavor profile is typically spicy, with grassy floral notes and a dry finish. (Dad's Hat Pennsylvania Rye is made with a mash consisting of 80-percent rye grain, accented with 15-percent malted barley and 5-percent malted rye.)
- Rye is best served neat or with a single ice cube, though it also works well in classic cocktails, specifically a Manhattan.
- How's it differ from Bourbon or Scotch? Bourbons use corn mash for sweeter taste. Single malt scotch uses malted barley mash for smoky flavor.

If you go

Philadelphia Whiskey Festival
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Lincoln Financial Field
$90 advance, $100 at door

Family tradition

Mihalich has been around whiskey his entire life. His grandfather and father owned a tavern in Monessen, Pa.

He remembers them pouring rye whiskey up until the early 1980s until unceremoniously people just stopped ordering rye.

"I don't really know why," he said.

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News in brief

Airport runway crasher gets prison

Kenneth Richard Mazik, the Chadds Ford man who drove onto a runway at Philadelphia International Airport earlier this year, was sentenced today to 16 months in prison.

Mazik, 25, pleaded guilty in July to disrupting services at the airport, and in doing so, endangering safety at the airport during the March 1 incident. Prosecutor said that Mazik drove his Jeep Cherokee through a locked gate around the airport as a plane was approaching for landing. He ran over and damaged two runway lights and caused an airplane to be diverted.

Mazik drove onto a second runway before police finally caught him, according to prosecutors. The incident closed the airport for 30 minutes and caused numerous planes to be delayed, causing financial losses to the airport.

In addition to prison time, U.S. District Court Judge Mitchell Goldberg ordered Mazik to pay $91,092 in restitution to the airport, the Federal Aviation Administration and US Airways, a $100 assessment and three years supervised release. METRO/SDL

Medicaid may return for thousands in Pa.

More than 100,000 state residents who lost Medicaid benefits last year may be eligible to reapply, thanks to an agreement reached Tuesday between the state Department of Public Welfare and Philadelphia Community Legal Services.

The agreement affects those who were dropped from Medicaid rolls between August 2011 and January 2012. METRO/SDL

Commuting by bicycle goes up in Center City

Bicycle commuting northbound into Center City increased 10 percent since 2010, according to a new study from Center City District.

The study, conducted during the first two weeks of October, showed an average of 873 cyclists entered downtown on northbound routes from South Third to South 22nd streets between 8-9 a.m., compared to 790 during the same hours in 2010. The rise was attributed to the population growth of young adults, the addition of bike lanes and rising gas prices.

The two streets that experienced the highest volume were 13th and 22nd streets — the only two streets with dedicated bike lanes.

"As the City of Philadelphia continues to install dedicated bike lanes, the number who choose this method to commute to work or school, or to carry out other necessary functions, will continue to increase, especially given the level topography of nearly all the neighborhoods that surround downtown," the report said. The district believes the numbers will continue to increase with more dedicated bike lanes. A plan from the city Planning Commission calls for 117 miles of new bike lanes. METRO/SDL

68%

Riders who are male, surveyors found. In European cities with extensive bike lanes, the male-female split is closer to 50-50.

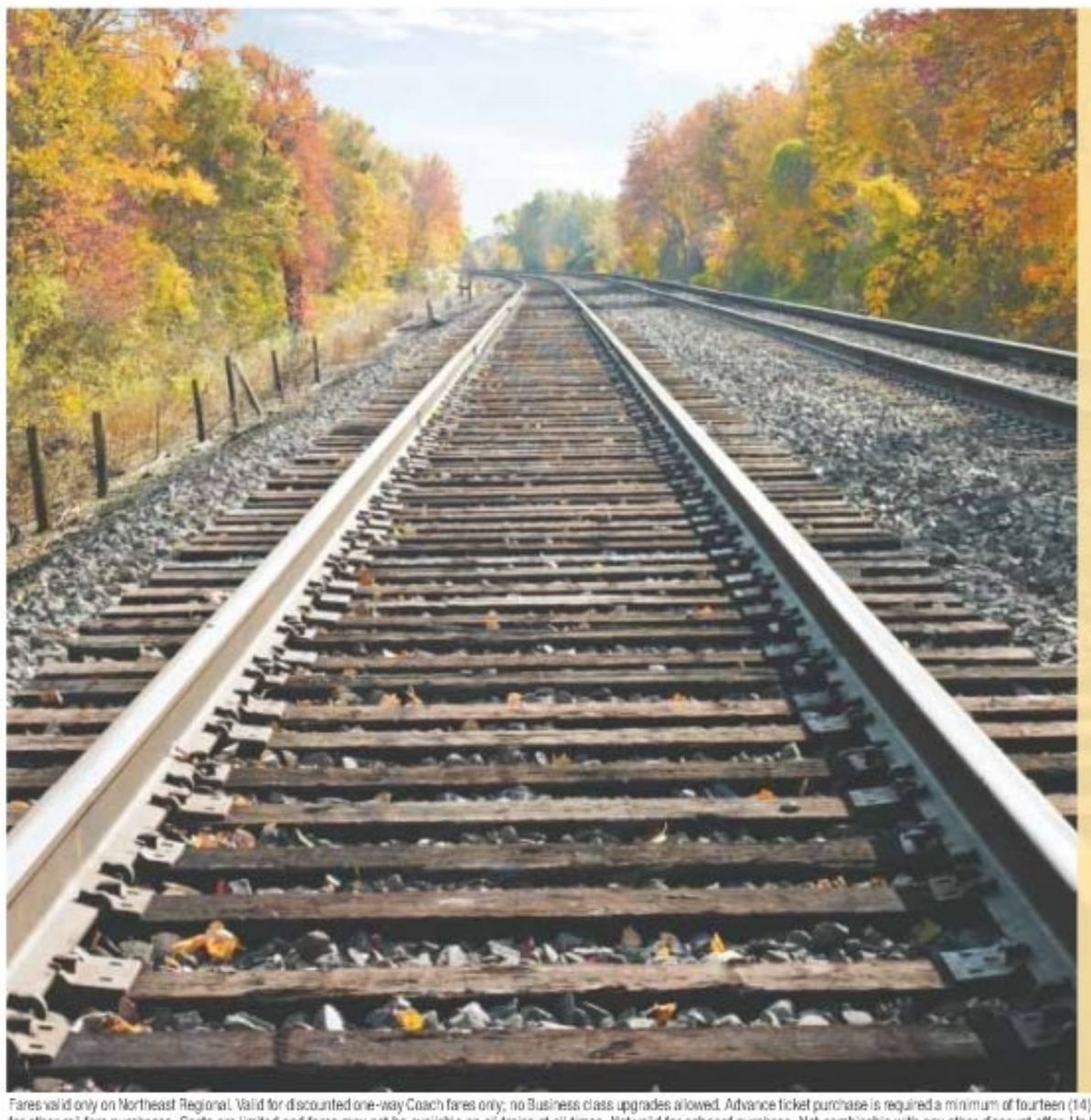
Art. Yarn bombing

▶ The yarn bikini only lasted for about three minutes until security took it down.

COURTESY OF CONRAD BENNER, STREETSDEPT.COM

Rizzo gets short-lived new look

Philadelphia street artist "Ishknits," a.k.a. Jessie Hemmons, yarn bombed the Municipal Services Plaza's statue of former mayor Frank Rizzo on Tuesday afternoon. The downtown statue of the infamously tough politician was adorned with a pink bra top and thong panties. METRO



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Mini iPad price will leave gap in market

Apple's "iPad mini" will attract new customers, but the higher-than-expected price will come as a relief to low-cost tablets such as Amazon.com Inc's Kindle, analysts said, in a muted reaction to the new tablet.

Few analysts revised their price targets for Apple in the wake of the announcement, with one raising their target and one cutting it.

"We believe the iPad mini, with its $329 starting price for the 16GB WiFi-only model, will help Apple reach a new customer base, particularly for holiday gifts to teenagers that may not have been able to afford the higher-end iPad," Canaccord Genuity analyst Michael Walkley wrote in a research note.

He raised his price target slightly on the stock to $800 from $797.

"We were hoping the price would be at least a little lower, given its competition is situated as low as $99, with many starting in the $199-to-$249 range," Barclays Capital analyst Ben Reitzes said. **REUTERS**

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Media examine the mini.

"We were hoping the price would be at least a little lower, given its competition is situated as low as $99, with many starting in the $199-to-$249"

BARCLAYS CAPITAL ANALYST BEN REITZES

Price too high?

$329 starting price for a Wi-Fi-only "iPad mini" was higher than many expected, and some analysts said the gadget might lure buyers away from Apple's $499 flagship 10-inch iPad, yet struggle to compete with the cheaper Amazon Kindle Fire and Google Inc's Nexus 7.

In the news

Millennium bomber sentence increased to 37 years

SEATTLE. "Millennium bomber" Ahmed Ressam, whose original 22-year prison term was deemed too lenient by an appeals court, was re-sentenced to 37 years behind bars yesterday for a foiled New Year's Eve 1999 plot to bomb the Los Angeles International Airport.

Federal prosecutors who appealed the original punishment had asked the Seattle-based district judge presiding over the case to impose a new sentence that would require Ressam, an Algerian national, to spend the rest of his life in prison. **REUTERS**

Metro photo challenge

▶ "Somewhere In Between" is by Bryan Trindade, New York.

Visit **metrophotochallenge.com** to submit your best photos to the world's largest photo competition for your chance to get published!

In the news

New homes sales brighten housing picture

WASHINGTON. New single-family home sales surged in September to the highest level in 2½ years, evidence the housing market recovery is gaining steam.

The Commerce Department said that new home sales increased 5.7 percent to a seasonally adjusted 389,000-unit annual rate – the fastest pace since April 2010, when sales were boosted by a tax credit for first-time homebuyers. **REUTERS**

Barnes & Noble stores get hit by PIN pad fraud

Barnes & Noble Inc., said yesterday that customers who shopped at 63 of its stores as recently as last month may have had their credit or debit card information stolen in what the U.S. bookstore chain called a "sophisticated criminal effort."

The retailer, which operates a total of almost 700 bookstores, said that federal law enforcement authorities have been informed of the breach and that it is supporting their investigation.

Barnes & Noble said it had detected tampering with one personal identification number (PIN) pad device at each of the 63 affected stores and by Sept. 14 had disconnected all the pads at every one of its stores. The tampering affected fewer than 1 percent of its PIN pads.

The company said it did not know how many customers were affected. The stores are in California, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island, Barnes & Noble said.

Still, the company said its customer database was secure, and that purchases made on the Barnes & Noble website, Nook e-reader and Nook mobile apps were not affected. It also said none of the pads at its college campus stores were affected. **REUTERS**

63

Barnes & Noble said it had detected tampering with one personal identification number (PIN) pad device at each of the 63 affected stores.

How the scam works

Barnes & Noble advised customers who have swiped their cards at any of the affected stores to change their debit card PIN numbers as a precaution, and to check their statements for unauthorized transactions.

SOURCE: BARNES & NOBLE

METRO GRAPHIC BY BILLY BECERRA

In the news

Buffett: Clear sign global economy is slowing

NEW YORK. Warren Buffett sees clear signs that the global economy is slowing, although the U.S. economy is "inching ahead" as other regions decline, the Berkshire Hathaway chief executive officer said yesterday.

GETTY IMAGES

Yet despite the weakness, Buffett said he was "salivating" to make another major acquisition, adding that two deals of around $20 billion each had fallen through this year.

In an interview on CNBC, Buffett said the rate of decline was larger in Asia than in Europe, although the Asian economies are declining off a higher base. **REUTERS**

In the news

Women have just 20 percent of world's powerful positions — study

NEW YORK. Women have gained little ground in political leadership around the world, with men still in about 80 percent of key elected and appointed positions, according to the World Economic Forum's annual Global Gender Gap Report.

"Some countries are moving in the right direction, but very slowly," said Saadia Zahidi, head of the WEF's Women Leaders and Gender Parity program. **BLOOMBERG**

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[WHOSE TURN TODAY?]

Romney inches ahead in polls

Republican candidate Mitt Romney was one percentage point ahead of President Barack Obama in yesterday's Reuters/Ipsos daily tracking poll in a presidential race that is effectively a dead heat less than two weeks before the Nov. 6 election.

In a reversal of Tuesday's results, Romney led Obama among likely voters by 47 percent to 46 percent, a statistically insignificant margin, in the four-day online tracking poll.

Obama had a lead of 53-42 percent among the 17 percent of the surveyed registered voters who said they had already cast their vote. Like many other polls, the rolling Reuters/Ipsos poll has shown a tight race since shortly after the two candidates met for their first debate on Oct. 3. **REUTERS**

46%
[SOMEONE HAS TO BE NO. 2]

Costly truth: Trump to give $5M to charity if Obama shows records

Donald Trump offered to pay $5 million to the charity of President Barack Obama's choice if Obama releases his college and passport records, the real estate mogul and television personality said on Wednesday.

"Frankly, it's a check that I very much want to write," Trump said in a YouTube video released via his Twitter and Facebook pages.

Trump has questioned whether Obama's birth certificate issued by the state of Hawaii is legitimate, suggesting Obama was not born in the United States, which could have made him ineligible for the White House. The White House released the long-form copy of Obama's birth certificate in 2011.

Trump did not say what he expected the college and passports records to reveal but was specific in saying he wanted to see all of Obama's college applications and records and his passport applications and records.

Trump said the deadline is 5 p.m. on Oct. 31. **REUTERS**

YOUTUBE

▶ The face of a man who takes his paperwork very seriously

Americans easily angered by lack of records?

"President Obama is the least transparent president in the history of this country. If he releases these records, it will end the question and indeed the anger of many Americans." TRUMP

White whale of a deal

Obama predicts deficit deal with Republicans

President Barack Obama voiced confidence that if re-elected he would secure within six months a deficit-reduction deal with Republicans equivalent to the "grand bargain" he failed to achieve last year.

Win or lose, Obama faces a so-called "fiscal cliff" of automatic across-the-board spending cuts and tax increases set for the end of the year. **REUTERS**

"It will probably be messy. It won't be pleasant. But I am absolutely confident that we can get ... the grand bargain."
OBAMA

Promises, promises

Obama's hope: Where did it go?

Dan Palmer, 22, spends his days manning phone banks and making sure his fellow students are registered to vote. Oh, and he studies for a political science degree. "People talk about an enthusiasm gap, but people my age are just as enthusiastic about Obama as we were four years ago", Palmer says. "It's just that many of the 2008 volunteers have jobs now and can't volunteer."

In 2008, Barack Obama's campaign attracted a vast army of enthusiastic volunteers.

"This year I made a one-time donation, but I'm not working on the campaign. I'll be voting for Obama in 2012, but it's due more to my belief that Romney would be a worse president," says Brian Massie, a 2008 volunteer.

ELIZABETH BRAW
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

Metropolitik

MICHAEL J. FROSCH
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT FOR METRO

THE GREAT GEOGRAPHIC UNKNOWN

President Barack Obama clearly dominated Mitt Romney on style and substance in Monday's final debate on foreign policy. But beyond the gamesmanship of who won or lost, Mitt Romney betrayed a level of ignorance so profound that it should disqualify him from being president.

On Monday night, Romney tried to explain that Syria is strategically important to Iran because Syria is Iran's "route to the sea." First of all, simply looking at a map reveals how idiotic this is.

Syria doesn't even share a border with Iran — you would have to go through Turkey or Iraq. Even worse, Iran has 2,000 miles of its very own coastline along the Caspian Sea and the Persian Gulf. Iran's "route to the sea" is nothing more than "any road heading north-south."

This is the seventh time Romney's has made this ridiculous argument this year, without once correcting it. Even after Monday's debate, Romney's campaign insisted that Romney merely meant to say that Syria is Iran's route to the "Mediterranean Sea."

But this is just as ignorant — Iran has ample access to the Mediterranean through its neighbor and trading partner Turkey.

Imagine if it had been President Obama who had shown this level of ignorance on such a vital issue. Republicans would talk of nothing else. Yet, what should be the biggest headline from Monday's debate has mostly been ignored (it wasn't even mentioned in yesterday's Metropolitik).

This isn't just a bit of trivia. The use of economic sanctions to deter Iran from any potential nuclear ambitions has been the central national security issue in this election.

Quoted

Syria doesn't share a border with Iran — you would have to go through Turkey or Iraq. Even worse, Iran has 2,000 miles of its very own coastline along the Caspian Sea and the Persian Gulf. Iran's "route to the sea" is nothing more than "any road heading north-south."

How can Mitt Romney even comprehend those sanctions, let alone criticize how the President has been using them, when he doesn't even understand the basic geography of Iran, or how and with whom it trades?

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages. Opposing viewpoints are welcome. Send 100-word submissions to letters@metro.us.

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2

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

@CarrieFFisher
I'm a failed anorexic.

@GarryShandling
Like to see a REAL reality talent show: the contestant goes backstage with a Hollywood producer and we never find out how they got the job.

@SarahKSilverman
People in cults don't call their cults cults

THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

Could Simpson's clothing line have company in the closet?

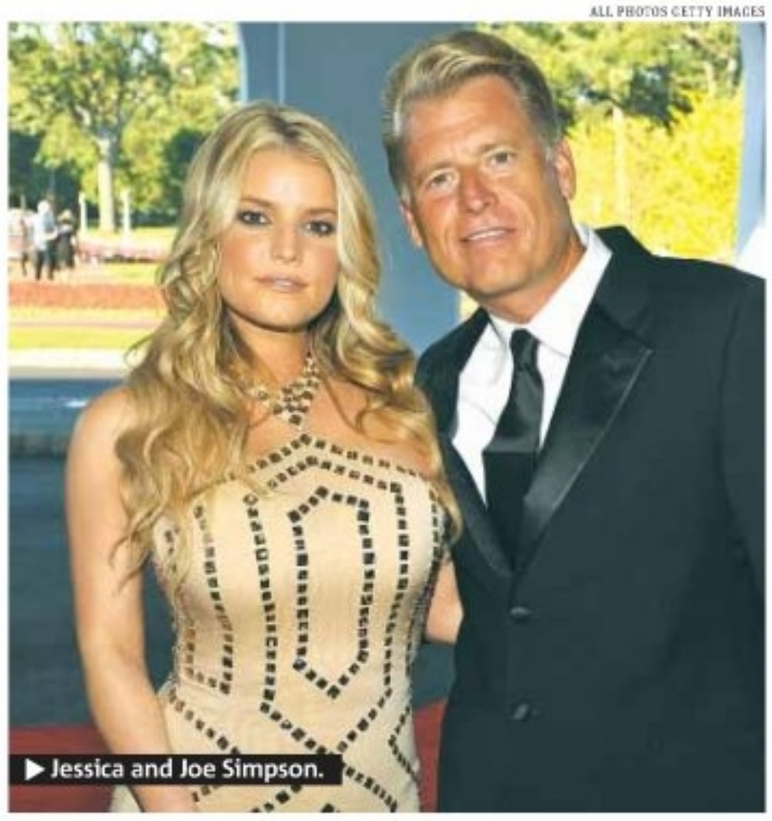
Looks like **Ashlee** and **Jessica Simpson** are going to have a lot to talk about around the Thanksgiving dinner table.

First up? Their mother, **Tina Simpson**, filed for divorce from their father, **Joe Simpson**, after 34 years of marriage last month. "It is an amicable split and there is no third party involved," a rep for the family says. "Any other related allegations are completely false. The family appreciates your respect for their privacy at this time."

The "allegations" they refer to? Well, the National Enquirer is reporting that their father, Joe Simpson, is gay. According to the tabloid, Simpson has a 20-year-old boyfriend, who was reportedly in the car with the former youth pastor and Baptist minister when he was busted for a DUI on Aug. 4.

I'll give you a second to let that sink in.

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES



▶ Jessica and Joe Simpson.

Got it together? Good. The National Enquirer even has a source from the family: "The police report stated that there was someone else in the car with Joe. Some reports have stated it was Tina, but now the belief is that it may well have been a boyfriend."

Of course, there is a good chance this is just a big, fat and very juicy rumor. After all, if Jessica Simpson's father were gay, don't you think her shoe line would be a little more fierce?

Houston family makes reality TV show

Whitney Houston's family is making a reality TV show, supposedly about how they are "coping" with the loss of the pop star. "The Houstons: On Our Own" premiered last night on Lifetime.

"The show has kept the family close together, [instead of] isolated from one another. We talk about things, we are very open, and we pay attention to the ones who need consoling the most," **Pat Houston**, Whitney's manager and sister-in-law, told Reuters.

The show opens with Houston's 19-year-old daughter, **Bobbi Kristina**, drinking an alcoholic beverage and announcing her engagement to **Nick Gordon**, 23, the boy Whitney Houston "adopted."

Didn't anyone in that family learn anything about shoving a young girl into the spotlight when maybe she wasn't mature enough to handle it?

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TV watch list

'Parks and Recreation'

COMEDY. Halloween is more tricks than treats for Leslie, who is forced to contemplate her future with Ben when he receives a new job offer. **9:31 p.m., NBC**

'The Office'

COMEDY. The office Halloween celebration includes a performance by Andy's a cappella group, but leads to a confrontation with his frenemy, Broccoli Rob (guest star Stephen Colbert). **9 p.m., NBC**

'The Big Bang Theory'

COMEDY. Astronaut suit up: Buzz Aldrin guest stars in this Halloween-themed episode. Of course, it doesn't need to be Halloween for this gang to dress up/act like conquerors of outer space. **8 p.m., CBS**

DANNY FELDMAN

▶ Ann (Rashida Jones, left) and Leslie (Amy Poehler) get in the Halloween spirit on "Parks and Recreation."

▶ "Big Bang Theory"

MONTY BRINTON/CBS

'The Vampire Diaries'

DRAMA. Elena is determined to live a "normal" life in Mystic Falls. Bwahahahaha ... when did this become a comedy? **8 p.m., The CW** ● **AMBER RAY**

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10 REASONS TO HIT THE MULTIPLEX

2 'Chasing Mavericks'
Gerard Butler is the Bodhi to Jonny Weston's Johnny Utah in this story about a teen (Weston) who aspires to ride "maverick" waves and the cranky veteran surfer (Butler) who tutors him.

3 'Fun Size'
Halloween. High school kids. A raging party. A lost younger brother. You imagine the rest.

4 'Silent Hill: Revelation 3D'
The first "Silent Hill" film that came out in 2006 didn't exactly win the favor of critics. But perhaps this sequel, which like its predecessor is based on the video game of the same name, will fare better in 3-D.

5 'Alex Cross'
While Madea endures a period of forced retirement, her creator and Dr. Jekyll extraordinaire Tyler Perry plays against type in this adaptation of the best-selling James Patterson crime thrillers based on the title character.

▶ Meet the ladies of the future in "Cloud Atlas," hitting theaters this weekend.

1 'Cloud Atlas'
We're prepared to be as confused by this film as we were when dinosaurs showed up in that hot Brad Pitt movie "The Tree of Life." But no matter. If Tom Hanks, Halle Berry and the Wachowski siblings (who brought us "The Matrix") have signed on, this time warp has to be worth the ticket price.

6 'Paranormal Activity 4'
While we continue to mourn the end of the "Saw" franchise — just kidding, no one misses it — we are comforted by yet another franchise mainstay of the Halloween season.

7 'Argo'
Ben Affleck directs and stars in this engaging thriller about six American Foreign Service workers trapped in the home of a Canadian ambassador during the 1979 Iranian hostage crisis.

8 'Seven Psychopaths'
A screenwriter doesn't have to look far for inspiration when penning a new film about deranged individuals, considering his best friend steals dogs for a living.

9 'Sinister'
Prepare to be spooked by this haunting tale about a crime writer who moves his family into a home that was the scene of murders.

10 'Here Comes the Boom'
Star Kevin James and director Frank Coraci bring you the story of a teacher (James) who attempts becoming a mixed martial arts specialist in order to raise money for his struggling school.

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Mary Elizabeth Winstead gets 'Smashed'

Hipster dream girl takes on the role of a woman struggling with alcoholism in her latest film

She's made a name for herself backing up a vampire-slaying Abraham Lincoln, as John McClaine's daughter in "Live Free or Die Hard" and as a hipster dream girl in "Scott Pilgrim vs. the World." But despite the fun she's had in the pop-culture movie world, Mary Elizabeth Winstead has been hungry for a good, solid indie drama. But taking on the lead in "Smashed" did come with a few hesitations.

"It was scary for me to take it on because I'd never done anything like that before. And I think for years, like most actors, you sit around going, 'Why can't I get one of those parts that's, like, really great?'" Winstead says with a laugh. "But then when you actually get the part you're like, 'Oh s—, I have to figure out how to do this.' So it was a little scary. But just the fact that I got through it and I did it and the response has been good, my confidence has grown a lot."

Playing an elementary school teacher who realizes she's an alcoholic held several challenges, not least of which was convincingly pretending to be drunk. "It's really daunting. Even the best actors sometimes, it's just really hard," she admits. "The whole thing about being drunk is that you're out of control. And if you're acting, you're sometimes sort of in control and it kind of defeats the whole purpose of making it authentic."

SONY PICTURES CLASSICS

▶ Mary Elizabeth Winstead says it's incredibly hard to play drunk.

Luckily, Winstead found help in the form of a book, "The Power of the Actor," given to her by co-writer and director James Ponsoldt. "It has an entire chapter dedicated to playing drunk," Winstead explains. "It's kind of just like hypnosis in a way. You just take yourself through all the steps of what it feels like to be drunk, and it just kind of plays a little mind trick on you and you feel really loose and out of your body. It really helped just let me let go of the fear of worrying about whether it felt real or not because I just felt really loose and buzzed, for sure."

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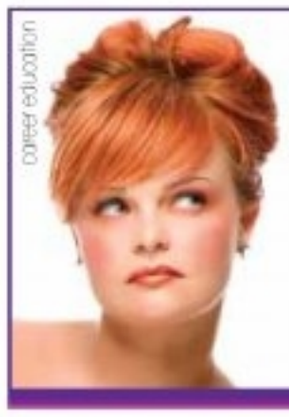

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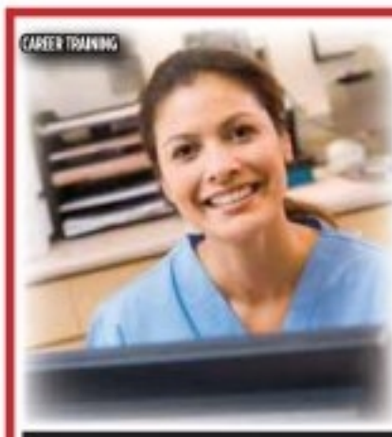

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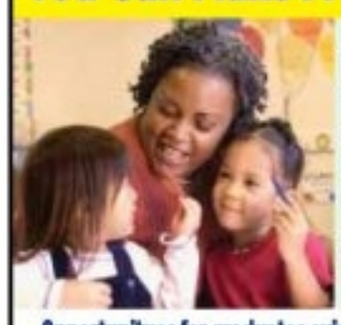

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Casual sex: It's just not all it's cracked up to be

While some consider it the height of adventure, a one night stand with a stranger has little to offer

"So I guess that's a no for brunch later?"

EYECANDY IMAGES

As babies, when we see strangers we get scared and cling to our mommies. As toddlers, we're told not to talk to strangers or (God forbid) take their candy. And now, as adults, we think we should be able to sleep with one we meet at a bar and feel OK about it the next day. But if we're honest with ourselves, having sex with someone you barely know is just kinda gross.

For my latest book — "Are All Guys Assholes?" — I traveled around the country talking to guys about (among other things) casual sex. Overwhelmingly, they described it as unsatisfying, disappointing and something that left them feeling empty. The men and women I coach now echo the same feelings. And yet, in moments of weakness while longing for human connection, many continue to do it.

The truth is, the physical act of sex is pretty unappealing. At the time, sex feels sexy because it's more than the physical act; you're mixing in romantic feelings and arousal. Take out the romantic feelings (because you can't have them for someone you barely know) and take out the arousal (which ends after an orgasm) and you're left with the act of sex and a strange sweaty body — not the human connection that probably motivated you in the first place.

The point of this article isn't to be judgmental, make you feel guilty or ruin your plans for tonight. It's to encourage you to pursue the types of relationships — sexual or otherwise — that make you feel good. When you're young, single and living in a city there is so much pressure to be living your "glory days" to the fullest. But sometimes our idea of "fun" doesn't translate to actually being fun, and we owe it to ourselves to recognize the difference.

— Amber Madison is a Manhattan-based relationship expert and dating coach. She is the author of "Are All Guys Assholes?" for which she traveled the country, spoke to over 1,000 men and discovered that the answer to this question is no. You can follow her on Twitter @ambermadi or online at www.ambermadisononline.com

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Style news

Mark your calendars: Prabal Gurung at Target

Just when we said we wouldn't geek out over another designer capsule collection, Target hits us with this: Red-carpet favorite Prabal Gurung will create a limited-edition line for the retail giant, available Feb. 10, 2013 — just in time for Valentine's Day.

"This collection was inspired by love, and if Target's guests can feel even a little bit of the love that I felt while I was designing, then I will consider it a job well done," said the designer. The line will consist of 80 pieces featuring Gurung's sleek tailoring and signature bold prints — all for less than $200. Our hearts are already going pitter-patter.

A look from the line

Karl Lagerfeld does manga

Move over, Choupette — Karl Lagerfeld has another adorable pet project. After using Shu Uemura makeup to sketch his illustrations for the last 20 years, the designer partnered with the Japanese beauty firm to create a playful holiday collection. For the face of the line, Lagerfeld created a character called Mon Shu (a play on the French nickname "mon chou") as his "personal vision of a Japanese manga." Mon Shu, who rocks a black bob and is dressed in Lagerfeld's signature white shirt-black tie getup, covers the packaging of all 17 products, including eye and cheek palettes, lipsticks, nail stickers and false eyelashes.

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Letters

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No country for old flip-floppers

Reading the letters Tuesday after the last presidential debate, during which Romney totally reversed himself on a number of issues, I was amazed to see how many finally get it.

For example, not long ago, one of the Republican talking points was "Don't set a date for leaving Afghanistan!" In the last debated, he said, "I agree with the president, we should get out by the end of 2014."

Another example: In the previous debate, he noted some parts of Obamacare he liked and would keep. The other night, he was back to overturning it totally, again. The media has been calling him out on these reversals all day today.

It looks like it doesn't matter to some what Romney says because his voters' main issue is not defense or tax reform or energy policy. It is just defeating Obama.

And it appears to be based more on personal enmity than on anything else. I for one hope this country, finally, will move past this stuff — toward a future based on understanding what the right thing is and doing it.

PAUL SIMONS, VIA E-MAIL

If you're going to build a road, at least build it here

RE: "NO WINNER IN SUBDUED FINAL DEBATE" (METRO, OCT. 24)

News columnist Susan Ferrechio states, "The debate generated less interest because it was about foreign policy, not pocketbook issues." If only she or anyone in the news would finally do their job and inform people by reporting the truth: that the two ARE directly connected. Our defense and foreign policy spending is where the largest amount of our borrowing and tax dollars go. Reducing it would be the single greatest way to fix our economy and pocketbooks. Want to build a road in the U.S.? Pay for it with the money used to build one in Afghanistan.

JASON FARBER, VIA E-MAIL

News columnist Susan Ferrechio's claim that there was no clear winner in the final debate is completely laughable. President Obama wiped the floor with Romney and his silk suit. However, Obama did fail at one aspect of the debate: the economy. He failed to repeatedly state that our sluggish economy is the direct result of the policies of the Bush administration and that Romney's economic plan is a return to those exact failed policies!

ROBERT LA ROSA, VIA E-MAIL

Independence doesn't come with a nanny attached

We are two weeks away from the election. Gov. Romney survived three debates and all the liberal media bias. Romney is qualified and will be elected the next president of the United States.

President Obama tried the last four years. His ideas and policies did not work. We do not need Obamacare; more government programs are not the solution for the future. Romney has fresh ideas and a plan for the future that will make this country great again.

JOHN MCLAUGHLIN, VIA E-MAIL

E-mail your letters: letters@metro.us

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words.
Metro reserves the right to edit all letters.
Please include your name and contact information.

Horoscope

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** Don't feel obligated to attend a social function just to keep up appearances. If you don't like the event and/or some of the people who'll be there, give your regrets.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Time is too precious to squander on just anything or anybody. Share it with those you truly like and enjoy doing things with.

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** It could turn out to be a huge learning experience when you get involved in a stimulating discussion with someone whose views diametrically oppose yours.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** This can be an extremely favorable day in terms of financial gain, but not necessarily from investments or joint ventures. You'll play your own game for a big payoff.

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** Friends will have little doubt as to where you stand, and you'll be respected for your candor, even when your position opposes that of the majority.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** An old obligation that has been owed you for quite a while is collectable at this point in time. Approach the debtor in such a way that he or she will get the message without resenting it.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** You're likely to be approached to chair a committee within a certain group or club in which you're involved. It may be a tough job, but it will have interesting side benefits.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Several of your goals are achievable, but not necessarily in the way you envision. If you discover you can't get past the obstacles blocking your path, you'll go around them.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** The old adage "Experience is the best teacher" will be true in your case. When you discover you could once again repeat a mistake that cost you bitter moments, you'll circumvent it.

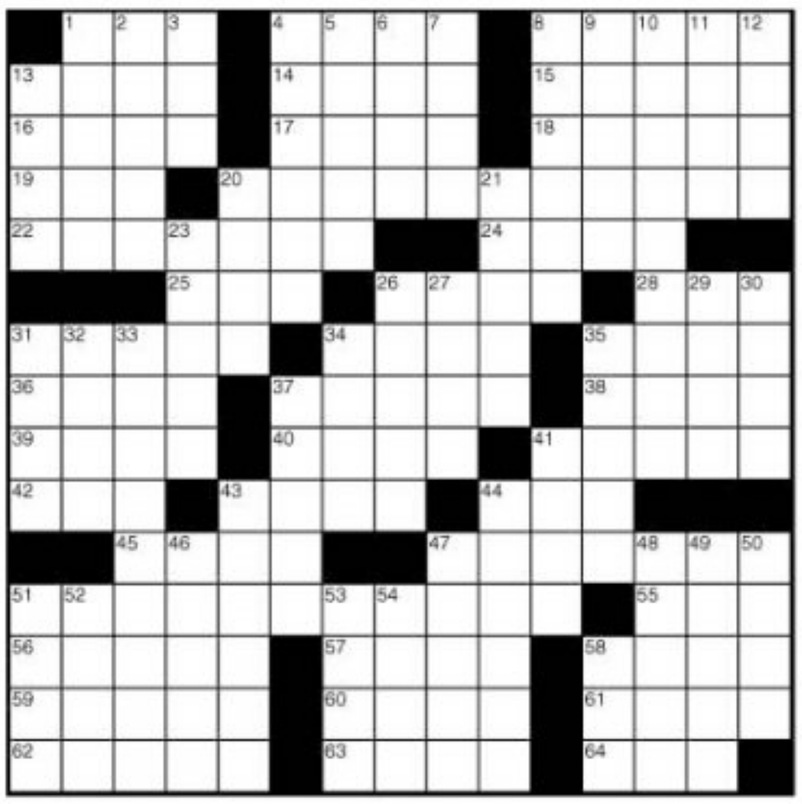
♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Someone who considers you to be an easy mark is in for a rude awakening. When push comes to shove, you'll be extremely resourceful.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Even though you'll be negotiating from a position of strength, you'll still be fair in your dealings. You'll go out of your way to make sure that both you and the other guy come out well.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Service you render will be given both willingly and expertly. However, no one should expect a "freebie," because you value your work and the remuneration you deserve for it.

BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Across
1 "— -Tiki"
4 Concorde fleet of yore
8 Fluid rock
13 Assignment
14 Lamb's pen name
15 D-sharp alias
16 St. Louis structure
17 Hoodlum
18 Cutthroat or rainbow
19 Grassy field
20 Pinkish flower (2 wds.)
22 Is in awe
24 Prudent
25 Ego companions
26 Blueprint, briefly
28 — Mahal
31 Trudges along
34 Gin-fizz flavor
35 Nudge forward
36 Roundup gear
37 Fallback strategy (2 wds.)
38 Oaf
39 Numerical prefix
40 Diet soda, maybe
41 Poker stakes
42 Me, to Miss Piggy
43 — noire
44 Exec's degree
45 Giant star in Cetus
47 Afternoon naps
51 Concisely (3 wds.)
55 Lyric poem
56 Vitamin lead-in
57 Mournful cry
58 Piece of news
59 Stacks
60 "Rosamond" composer
61 Man Ray contemporary
62 Panache
63 Sugar source
64 Malt beverage



Down
1 China neighbor
2 Muppet grouch
3 Utmost degree
4 Calyx segments
5 Phony coins
6 Metallic sound
7 Quaff with sushi
8 Kilo system
9 1960's hairdos
10 Travel far and wide
11 Molokai neighbor
12 Business letter abbr.
13 It may be read
20 Autumn colors
21 Dork
23 Audio partner
26 Rock formed from shale
27 Cornbread
29 Shivery feeling
30 Hot tub features
31 Teen event
32 Plumb crazy
33 Best case
34 Gill opening
35 Arm bones
37 Make folds
41 "Green Mansions" hero
43 Minor injury
44 Birdseed
46 PC chip maker
47 Left Bank river
48 Demolish
49 "Rolling in the Deep" singer
50 Truck stop sight
51 Bratty kids
52 Soir follower
53 Mop
54 Tortoise rival
58 Wyo. neighbor

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			9		1		3	
5			8				2	
		2					6	9
7			3		6			2
8	1					5		
	5				4			6
	4		2		5			
		9		6		4	8	

SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

		6	8	3				
7	9		1				6	
3	5			7				
6	2			9	1			
	4						3	
			4	6			1	5
				1			2	7
	7				5		9	1
				8	7	6		

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to yesterday's crossword

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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Watkins breaks media silence, calls out blogs

Guard defends himself, linemates for poor play • Recent firing cast 'lingering shadow' on everyone • Peters could return to bolster line

When a player shuns the all-powerful media in this town, it usually gets them into hot water. So when Danny Watkins told a reporter that he didn't want to talk Monday, the Twitter-sphere blew up.

Two days later, Watkins was in a jovial mood, joking with reporters and inviting them to his locker stall.

"You can ask me anything today. I'm fine with that," Watkins said.

The Eagles starting right guard took a lot of blame for the offensive line's struggles after the loss to Detroit. Watkins said he took the defeat hard and the finger-pointing even harder.

"It leaves a sour taste in your mouth," Watkins said. "You can't really take your mind off it when you're trying to relax because it's all you're thinking about."

Watkins and his linemates really haven't put a solid four quarters together since losing Jason Kelce. The center was the glue that held the unit together, the guy who directed traffic and made the calls. Without him, they are still still trying to adjust and adapt to fill-in Dallas Reynolds' style.

"Dallas is doing a really good job," Watkins said. "We have to learn his calls, his mentality, where's he taking us, where we're going. It's just a chemistry thing, it's going to take a little time."

But how much time do the Eagles have? If they lose to Atlanta Sunday, there could be more changes. Coach Andy Reid announced that King Dunlap was taking over for Demetress Bell at left tackle.

"There's a lingering shadow on everyone, I think," Watkins said. "We just have to do a better job, that's it."

Before he left for treatment on his ankle, Watkins did get one dig in on bloggers.

"Some of these bloggers you read about, I don't think they have a clue what they're talking about. And then some of them obviously have a really good idea and understand the concepts."

MIKE GREGER
mgreger@metro.us

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Watkins, left, took the Detroit loss extremely hard. He's looking to get back on track Sunday against Atlanta.

Reid: Chance Peters returns this season

It's hard to imagine a guy coming back after tearing his ACL twice in the offseason. Yet that's exactly what Andy Reid indicated yesterday about his All-Pro left tackle Jason Peters.

"There's a chance," Reid said. "We'll just see. He's got three weeks here."

The team has until Nov. 27 to decide whether to place Peters on injured reserve (ending his season) or activate him to the 53-man roster. Peters is running and participating in light agility drills. Barring no setbacks, Peters would be eligible to hit the practice field for real by Nov. 6. METRO/MG

Graham takes subtle shot at Juan Castillo

Brandon Graham may have inadvertently called out his former defensive coordinator yesterday.

Players are being tight-lipped about the changes new coach Todd Bowles is installing, insisting that the coverages and schemes will be the same, but Graham noted that Bowles has vowed not to be so predictable — especially late in games.

"By the fourth quarter everybody knew what we were going to do. That's how we got beat," Graham said of the loss to Detroit. "I think we started running the same stuff over and over."

Bowles takes over the play-calling Sunday. He's had less than a full week running the defense.

"I think we went back, did a lot of evaluating [and] tweaked some things, and we're going to be able to play some ball," said safety Kurt Coleman. METRO/MG

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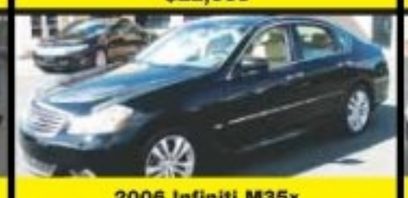
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Bynum unable to participate in first practice with Sixers

This was supposed to be Andrew Bynum's big day. The 7-footer was expected to practice with his new team for the first time this season. Unfortunately for the Sixers, Bynum felt pain in his right knee and didn't take the court.

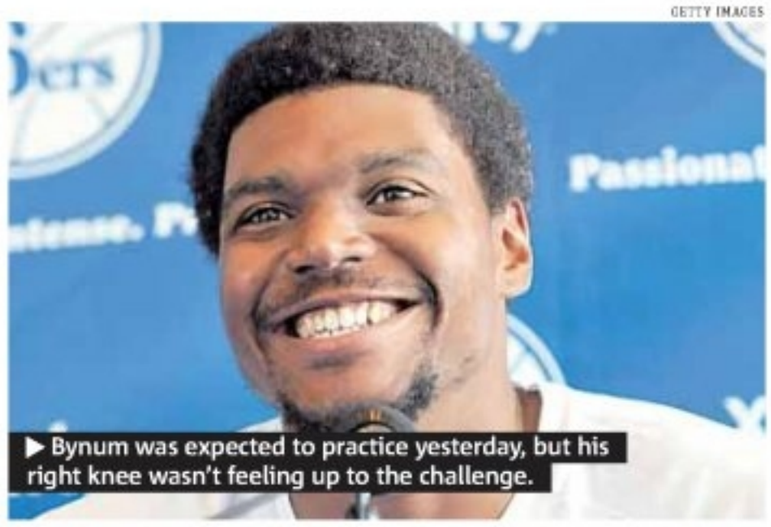
Now the speculation begins over whether he'll be healthy enough to go in the Sixers' season opener.

"A lot of that is going to be how he responds to increased activity," coach Doug Collins told reporters. "I know how important the home opener is, but we're not going to do anything silly and have another setback where it costs you and now you have to miss those kinds of games."

The Sixers said Bynum won't participate until he's 100-percent pain free. Right now, he's still unable to run at full speed.

The Sixers open the season Oct. 31 against the Denver Nuggets. If Bynum can't go by then, Collins is most likely looking at starting second-year big-man Lavoy Allen at the center spot. METRO

GETTY IMAGES



▶ Bynum was expected to practice yesterday, but his right knee wasn't feeling up to the challenge.

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2037 Ransome, Brenda	3012 Torres, Carmen	3212 Davenport, Naquiesha
2051 Phillips, Kamika	3099 Gomez, Quanna	3220 Martinez, Elaine

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1004 Jacqueline Regan	1077 Simon Latimore	1107 Abu Tilghman	1176 Cassandra D Johnson
2012 Timothy Shanahan	2031 Jamal Hernandez	2069 Kristen Hagins	2161 Tiffany McMillion
2164 Eileen Kernick	2228 Catherine Colburne	2289 Kevin Laws	2297 Douglas Hickson
2316 Ruby Tarboro Reid	2327 Jeaninne Walton	2357 Latonya Marshall	

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1133 Diane James	2122 Ronald Beck	2425 Donald Ford
1136 Calvin Harrison Jr.	2127 Gregory Carlton	2441 Byron Hopkins
1142 Angela Brown	2219 Nate Pompey	2532 Anwar Coleman
1148 Brian Bradley	2246 Jaasmine Smith	2538 Barbara Addison
1441 Mary Ellen Raden	2306 Adia Harmon	2600 Shawn Morgan
1446 Angie Brown	2326 Kathleen Bradley	2626 Linda Cain
1710 Shireatha Johnson	2344 Larry Edwards	2640 Eman Comm Liv Inc
2112 Zerlina Muir	2414 Edward Duncan	2700 Sean Carmichael

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Property Manager: Dana Manley • Date and Time of Auction: **Friday, November 16th, 2012 @ 1:00 PM**

138	Norris Helem	2001	John Timms	2171	Sammy Jones Jr.
151	Kevin Davis	2005	Himmiea Cooper	2239	Tamara Watson
1007	Cynthia Hawkins	2010	Dawn Roseborough	2248	Ernest Baldwin
1019	Denise Taylor	2017	Wilbert Ellison	2265	Norris Helem
1035	Valerie Jackson	2020	Chamara Prince	2280	Ronald Harris
1037	Frederick Fields	2057	Sonya Trippett	2287	Yasin Abdul-Hakim
1048	Amanda Bivens	2088	Tatiana Jarrells	2302	Chandra Newsome Simmons
1073	Karen Clement	2122	Erica Drew	2354	Karina Rodriquez
1183	Lateefah Brown	2150	Vincent Linder Jr.	2357	Sean King
				3004	James Cooper
				3005	James Cooper
				3024	Rosa Pujols
				3036	Lateefah Brown
				3048	Tiffany Nixon
				3050	Alphonso Wright
				3058	Braheem Hawkins
				3061	Monique Townsend
				3119	Tyrone Small

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Property Manager: Francesca Milord • Date and Time of Auction: **Friday, November 16th, 2012 @ 3:00pm**

1084 Meier Robert	1273 Griggs Larry	1502 Robinson Shelby
1102 Cyderia Griffin	1335 Haiowood Gabrjelle	1707 Hyacinth Davis
1151 Peterson Barbara	1341 Stabile Emilia	1717 Reid Beyyah Jibril Haji
1189 Rogers Joseph	1367 Hewlett Reginald	1743 Deborah Ayers
1250 Tolbert Leonard	1422 Sharp Kristopher	1789 William Evrold
1265 Goard Tiffany	1457 Melanie Clayton	1509A Ameer Riddick

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NHL commish admits full 82-game season 'not going to be reality'

Bettman thinks abbreviated season only option Owners, players haven't met since last Thursday Islanders moving over to Brooklyn

Gary Bettman was giving a speech to announce the Islanders' move from Long Island to Brooklyn. It was a monumental day for a once-proud franchise. However, the topic soon turned into an update on the NHL's lockout.

There was hope that if a deal could be reached by today, then the regular season could start Nov. 2. That optimism has fizzled. The NHL and NHLPA haven't met since last Thursday despite the league handing out a proposal that called for a 50-50 split.

"Things seem to be not progressing the way we would like. It's disappointing," commissioner Gary Bettman told reporters, via NHL.com. "The union has chosen not to engage on our proposal or to make a new proposal of their own, so unfortunately it looks like an 82-game season is not going to be a reality."

While an 82-game season appears to be off the table, Bettman did express hope that an abbreviated season of some sorts could still be salvaged. It's not the best option, but it may be the only option.

"I'd rather play a full season and I'm sure our fans would rather we play a full season," Bettman said. "That's why we made the offer we did." METRO

Moving day

Meanwhile, the Islanders are officially headed to Brooklyn to play at the new Barclays Center starting in the 2015-16 season. The franchise signed a 25-year lease yesterday.

Islanders will share the building with the recently moved Brooklyn Nets basketball franchise. The two shared the Nassau Coliseum from 1972-77. "This announcement today reunites these two franchises," Islanders owner Charles Wang said.

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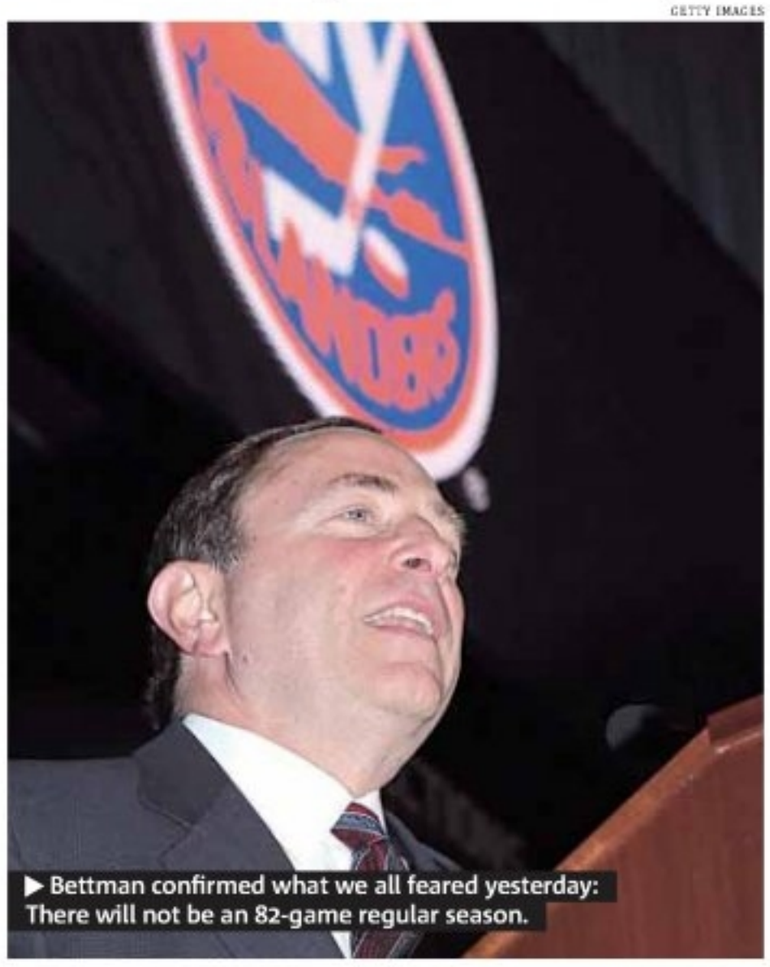

▶ Bettman confirmed what we all feared yesterday: There will not be an 82-game regular season.

Report: Pence's bat sold for $400

Remember that magic bat that Hunter Pence broke and amazingly struck the ball with three times in Game 7 of the NLCS? The double plated two runs in the Giants' 9-0 as they beat the Cardinals and advanced to the World Series.

According to CSNBayArea.com, the Giants sold the bat for $400 to a season-ticket holder. Now that season-ticket holder wants Pence to have the bat. "He purchased the bat and said he wanted Hunter to have it," a Giants rep told the website.

The Giants and Tigers played Game 1 of the World Series last night (ended too late for Metro). METRO

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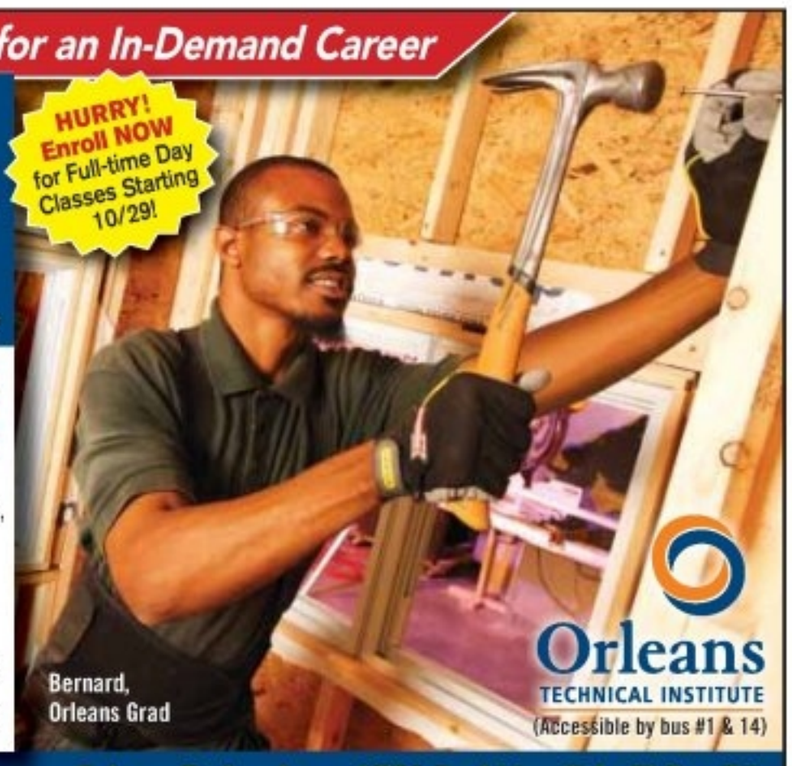
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Fantasy sports

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In football, raw points rule. Man scores touchdown, fantasy owner wins. That's the wrong way to look at fantasy basketball.

Fantasy hoops is one part math problem, one part playing time and one part talent. The biggest names score the most points, but that only helps in one category. The key is drafting guys who are elite because of their versatility.

Wings of gold

The small forward spot is often a fertile ground for breakout candidates. As the best pure athletes on the court, they can carry fantasy teams. This year, **Nicolas Batum** and **Paul George** are near locks to be top-30 players when it's said and done. Reach for them.

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▶ Paul George is a perfect example of an ideal fantasy player.

Young bucks

Don't be scared off because a player is relatively unproven. **Kyrie Irving** and **DeMarcus Cousins** deserve first-round consideration. **Klay Thompson** and **Kenneth Faried** are ready for second-year leaps. **Damien Lillard**, locked into the starting job in Portland, is the No. 2 rookie behind **Anthony Davis**.

Mind your block

It's important to focus on the tough categories on draft day. Once the season gets going, you'll always be able to acquire cheap 3-pointers, rebounds and points on the wire. You won't find any blocks out there. Give **Serge Ibaka**, **JaVale McGee** and **DeAndre Jordan** bumps on your board.

NBA busts

Blake Griffin

PF, Clippers
Big name, small game. Griffin's career 59.3-percent mark from the line and 0.6 blocks are fantasy killers. You don't get extra points for highlight-reel dunks.

Dwyane Wade

SG, Heat
The concern here is missed games. Wade isn't the man on his team. He's solely focused on playoffs and his body is breaking down at age 30.

NFL backfields

GETTY IMAGES

Injuries are rocking fantasy's most important position.

1 **Jaguars** — Maurice Jones-Drew is going to miss at least two weeks and probably more. Talented backup **Rashad Jennings** is in store for 20-plus touches weekly.

2 **Cowboys** — DeMarco Murray's injury isn't as bad as Jones-Drew's, but it's still a foot problem. Felix Jones is also nicked a little bit but figures to get 15 touches for a couple more weeks.

3 **Panthers** — With their season circling the drain, the Panthers are making changes. They fired their GM and have a new approach in the backfield. Jonathan Stewart is the primary back, with DeAngelo Williams as his fill-in.

4 **Browns** — When healthy, Trent Richardson is the man. But the Browns think his rib issue is limiting him, so he's just day-to-day for now. T-Rich might not be right until after the Week 10 bye.

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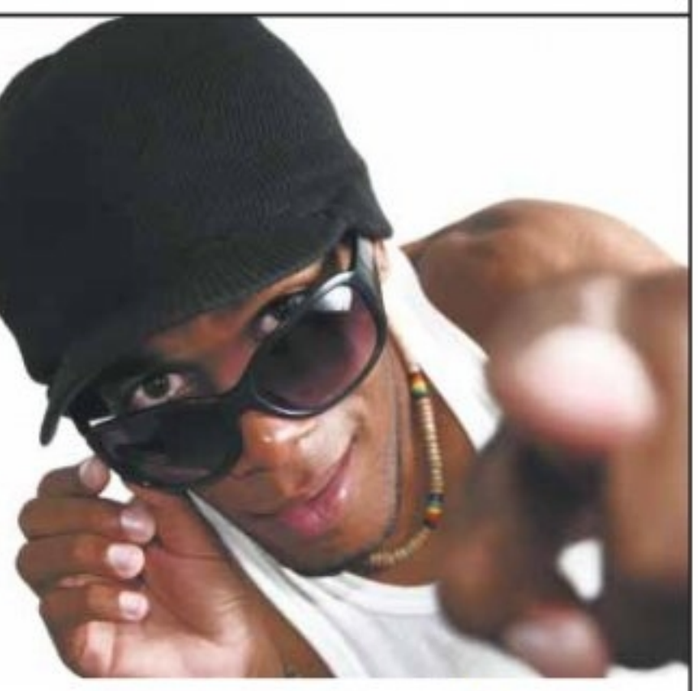

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